

Nomenclatural Changes in *Polygonum*, *Persicaria*, and *Aconogonon* (Polygonaceae)

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ABSTRACT. *Polygonum caurianum* subsp. *hudsonianum* is raised to species rank. *Polygonum bistortoides* is transferred to *Persicaria*, and *Polygonum alaskanum* var. *glabrescens* is transferred to *Aconogonon*.

For the forthcoming treatment of *Polygonum* s.l. for the *Flora of North America*, several new nomenclatural combinations are required to reflect new knowledge in the taxonomy of this group.

Polygonum caurianum B. Robinson subsp. *hudsonianum* S. J. Wolf & McNeill is raised to species rank as *Polygonum hudsonianum* (S. J. Wolf & McNeill) Hinds, and the new combinations *Persicaria bistortoides* (Pursh) Hinds and *Aconogonon alaskanum* (W. Wight ex Hultén) var. *glabrescens* (Hultén) Hinds are made.

Polygonum hudsonianum (S. J. Wolf & McNeill) Hinds, stat. et comb. nov. Basionym: *Polygonum caurianum* B. L. Robinson subsp. *hudsonianum* S. J. Wolf & McNeill, *Rhodora* 88: 856. 1986. TYPE: Canada. Québec, Fort George, Baie James, 30 Aug. 1950, *Lepage* 12863 (holotype, DAO).

Polygonum hudsonianum forms part of a complex of species within section *Polygonum* that includes *P. fowleri* B. L. Robinson and *P. caurianum* B. L. Robinson. Examination of relevant collections has led me to the conclusion that *P. hudsonianum* is more closely related to *P. fowleri* than to *P. caurianum*. There appears to be a clear distinction between *P. caurianum* and *P. hudsonianum* based partly on size but also on features of the perianth,

Table 1. Morphological comparison between *Polygonum fowleri*, *P. hudsonianum*, and *P. caurianum*.

	<i>P. fowleri</i>	<i>P. hudsonianum</i>	<i>P. caurianum</i>
Fruiting perianth			
Size (mm)	3.0–4.5, mean 3.75	(2.3–)2.5–3.2(–3.5), mean 2.9	1.6–2.3(–3), mean 2.3
Shape	broadly pouched	± pouched at base	tapering to base of lobes
Color	light green	greenish to roseate	roseate
Lobes	cucullate; overlapping except late season ones	cucullate; ± overlapping	not cucullate; ± flat, flared and curved outward
Achenes			
Size (mm)	(2.5–)3.0–3.7(–4.0), mean 3.3	(1.8–)2.0–2.5(–3.1), mean 2.2	1.4–1.6(–2.2), mean 1.7
Shape, surface texture, and cross section	broadly ovate, beaked; granular roughened; 2 equal and 1 broader side, many biconvex	broadly ovate-lanceolate; ± beaked; roughened to definitely striate-papillate; variable in cross section, many biconvex	ovate-lanceolate; not or only obscurely beaked; rough to faintly striate-papillate; mostly 1 narrow and 2 broader sides
Included or excluded	included except late season ones all exserted	included or slightly exserted; late season ones all exserted	all exserted
Leaves	light to dark green or ± reddish	reddish tinged	reddish to purplish tinged
Distribution	NE & NW coastal US & Canada; S coastal Alaska; James Bay, W Hudson Bay	centered E of Hudson Bay & N of St. Lawrence River, Québec	centered in NW Alaska, Yukon & NW Northwest Territories

achene, and distribution (Table 1). Separation between *P. fowleri* and *P. hudsonianum*, however, is more difficult. Many characteristics are shared by these two taxa, including the expanded base of the perianth (pouched), cucullate three outer sepals, and beaked achenes. As Table 1 indicates, however, there are enough quantitative and qualitative differences between the two taxa upon which to recognize *P. hudsonianum* as a species.

The description in Wolf & McNeill (1986) of *Polygonum caurianum* subsp. *hudsonianum* should be amended to include characteristics as indicated in Table 1.

***Persicaria bistortoides* (Pursh) Hinds, comb. nov.**

Basionym: *Polygonum bistortoides* Pursh, Fl. Amer. Sept., 1: 271. 1814. *Bistorta bistortoides* (Pursh) Small, Bull. Torrey Bot. Club 33: 57. 1906. TYPE: [U.S.A. Idaho:] "Quamash Flats, banks of the Missouri," now called Weippe Prairie, Clearwater Co., 20 June, M. Lewis, 1806 (holotype, PH).

Persicaria (sect. *Bistorta*) *bistortoides* is closely related to *Persicaria bistorta* (L.) G. Sampaio. It is recognized based on the research of Ronse Decraene & Akeroyd (1988), whose studies of floral mor-

phology in the Polygonaceae support including the *Bistorta* group in the genus *Persicaria*.

***Aconogonon alaskanum* (W. Wight ex Hultén)**

Soják var. ***glabrescens*** (Hultén) Hinds, comb. nov. Basionym: *Polygonum alaskanum* W. Wight ex Hultén var. *glabrescens* Hultén, Acta. Univ. Lund. N.F. Avd. 2, 40(1) 4: 612. 1944. TYPE: U.S.A. Alaska: Bonanza Creek, 19 June 1924, Eastwood 298 (holotype, GH).

Chambers (1992) clarified the correct name in *Aconogonon* for this species, but because he preferred to include these taxa in *Polygonum*, left the publication of this new combination to someone else.

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Literature Cited

- Chambers, K. L. 1992. Choosing the correct name for *Aconogonon* (*Polygonum* sect. *Aconogonon*) in Alaska. *Rhodora* 94: 319-322.
- Ronse Decraene, L.-P. & J. R. Akeroyd. 1988. Generic limits in *Polygonum* and related genera (Polygonaceae) on the basis of floral characters. *Bot. J. Linn. Soc.* 98: 321-371.
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